

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

401 West Boulevard Chesterfield, S.C. 29709

Dr. Renfro C. Manning, Superintendent

Telephone - (803) 623-2175

Fax - (803) 623-3434

April 18, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a superintendent from Chesterfield County School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

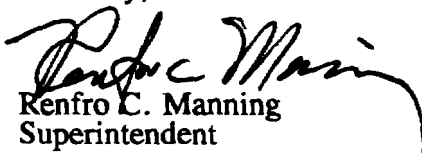
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

In Chesterfield County, we now have twelve of our fifteen schools wired throughout and on line. Four other facilities are scheduled.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year to fully utilize the available potential.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

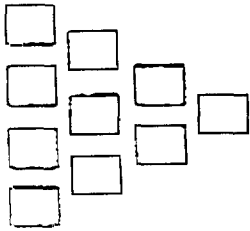

Renfro C. Manning
Superintendent

RCM:ph
FCCInt1

4-18-97

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7871 # of pages > 1

To Commissioner Chong	From Renfro Manning
Co. FCC	Co. CCSD
Dept.	Phone # 803-623-2175
Fax #	EC#



EXPIRATION DATE FILED

Middle School • 111 - 36th Street, S.E., Wyoming, Michigan 49548 • (616) 245-0561

April 19, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the Director of Technology for the Godwin Heights Public Schools, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information superhighway.

The Telecommunication Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly the plan to bring services directly to the classroom where student learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce for tomorrow.

Our belief that technology supports learning is reflected in the passage of a bond in June of 1995 specifically for technology. The money generated as to our Technology Plan first established a fiber WAN between our 7 buildings. Part of that first phase also was the installment of a LAN in each school building allowing up to 7 computers in each classroom, as well as voice and video. The intent of this plan, developed by our community, was to bring technology to the classroom where the students are and where learning takes place. As a result we now have the ability to bring the internet to each classroom. Our T1 line to the local ISD brings the signal to the district. I am telling you this because I want you to know that we believe technology, for example the Internet, is important to the learning process. The resources available through the Internet expands learning opportunities.

The passage of the bond provided the funds to build a solid infrastructure for our future technology needs, but the ongoing costs are coming from the general fund. The passage of this discount program is extremely important to the continuance of our technology plan.

Our students will benefit by the adoption of this program. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service to schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ronald Postma
Director of Technology

Media Services / Technology / Foreign Language



The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong

Federal Communications Commission

1919 M Street, NW, Room 844

Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MAY 1 1997

Learning

for

Life

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a Technology Coordinator from Dearborn Public Schools and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunities.

The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our intent is to provide all student use computers in classrooms, microcomputer labs and media centers with the ability to access the Internet. Presently, we are planning to install expensive infrastructure which will provide local area networking (LAN) capabilities for each of our buildings. Allowing for inexpensive Internet services will relieve our school district of the burden of an unaffordable expense if we were to consider service to all of our student computers.

In addition, our district would like to take advantage of distance learning applications which would provide professional development activities for our teachers and additional higher level course offerings for our students which presently cost prohibitive.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dennis Briar

Coordinator Media/Technology/Foreign Language

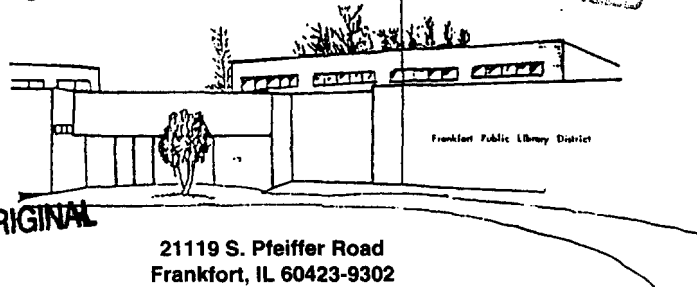
18700 Audette
Dearborn, MI 48124-4295
Voice (313) 730-3038
Fax (313) 730-3041

Frankfort Public Library District

TRUSTEES

Vicki Baker - President
Joan Romanus - Vice President
Michelle Caputo - Treasurer
Jeanne Lombaer - Secretary
Jeanne DeRaimo
Kay MacNeil
Carolyn B. Thompson
Lorraine M. Novak - Administrative Librarian

April 16, 1997



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

21119 S. Pfeiffer Road
Frankfort, IL 60423-9302
Phone: (815) 469-2423
Fax: (815) 469-9307

MAY 1 1997

Hon. Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commissioner
1919 M Street NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Ms. Chong:

RE: CC Docket 96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools

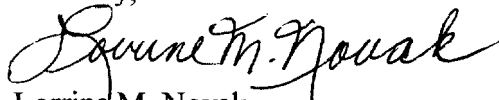
I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for libraries and schools as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allow libraries and schools significant discounts for the telecommunications and *critical, non-telecommunications* services necessary to assure that *all* of our public libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn, and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that libraries and schools would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools and libraries that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telecommunications companies and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our libraries and schools -- and -- ultimately for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Lorraine M. Novak
Administrative Librarian

Independent School District No. 299

511 West Main Street
Caledonia, Minnesota 55921-1194
(507) 724-3316
FAX: (507) 724-3319

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 16, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street Northwest
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

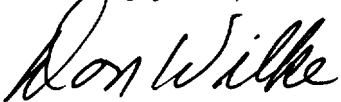
I am Superintendent of the Caledonia School District, Caledonia, Minnesota and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Caledonia School District has made a major financial commitment to wire our two school buildings but would greatly benefit by receiving assistance with discounts for services. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Don Wilke, Superintendent

DW/dal

EX PARTE OR LITIGATED

April 18, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 - 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner/Chairman Chong:

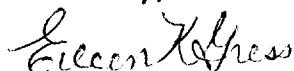
I am superintendent of the Darien Public Schools in Connecticut, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board decision will ensure that our district will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet, thus providing enhanced learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of the nation's schools, enabling services to be extended directly to the classroom where students learn. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The inclusion of discounts for Internet services is vital. Our district is in the process of integrating specific telecommunications programs into our curriculum, including the federally-funded Globe Project in Grade 5 and the Jason Project in Grade 7. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Eileen K. Gress
Superintendent of Schools

EKG:nv



FREDERICK ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

1 Worman's Mill Court, Suite 15
Frederick, MD 21701

Telephone (301) 620-9217

EX PARTE CALLED

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JIM WRIGHT
President

JOHN GATES
MSTA UniServ Director

April 16, 1997

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong,

We are The Frederick Association of School Support Employees of Frederick Maryland. We are writing in support of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board.

We would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and, importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Jim Wright
President



Plum Borough School District
200 SCHOOL ROAD, PLUM, PENNSYLVANIA 15239
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

DR. FRANK C. PRAZENICA, JR.
Assistant Superintendent

DR. GEORGE E. COOKE
Superintendent
795-0100
Fax: 795-9115

EDWIN T. NEFF
Director of Personnel

LORETTA P. McCLINTOCK
Director of Reading Services

MARIE MITALY
School Psychologist

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 17, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

FE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

On May 8, 1997, when you vote on the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide significant discounts for all telecommunications services including connections within each classroom, you will have the opportunity to guarantee that all students have an equal opportunity to benefit from our nations technological advancements. This will prove to be a major step in the efforts to prepare students for their future in which 60% of the jobs will require computer skills.

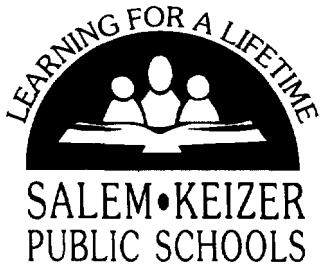
As a school superintendent, I can assure you that the proposed discounts would provide a major thrust to our efforts to integrate technology into the curriculum. We are committed to providing our students with the computer skills that business demand and that our workforce will need to maintain our competitiveness in a global economy.

I encourage you to support the plan to provide discounts to schools for all telecommunications services including internal connections. This action will open the door of opportunity for every student in our country and help to prepare our workforce of the future.

Sincerely,

George E. Cooke, Ed. D.
Superintendent

GEC/rm



EXPIRATION DATE FILED

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
HOMER H. KEARNS, Superintendent
1309 Ferry Street SE • PO Box 12024 • Salem, Oregon 97309-0024

(503) 399-3001 • FAX: (503) 399-5579

April 23, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

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MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-15

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the Superintendent of Salem-Keizer Public Schools in Salem, Oregon. I want to thank you for your support of funds for school access to the Internet.

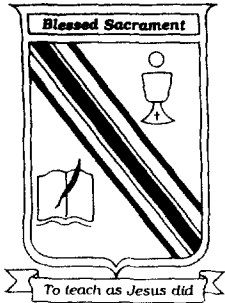
One of our district's eight student learning goals is to exhibit technological literacy, and the Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools in our district will be able to enjoy the Internet's features, including distance learning.

We are currently in the process of wiring all of our schools, from elementary to high school classrooms. The approximately \$2 billion a year in the plan will help us to wire more computers in more schools faster, allowing more opportunities for our students to be educated as the workforce of tomorrow.

As the Internet becomes more and more a part of everyday use, it will be more important than ever to incorporate the technology in all classes. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Homer H. Kearns
Superintendent



Blessed Sacrament School
1003 E. Victory Drive
Savannah, GA 31405-2499

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
(912) 356-6987
(912) 356-6988

April 14, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket NO. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the principal of Blessed Sacrament School in the Diocese of Savannah. I would like to thank you for your dedication to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Highway.

The Telecommunication Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance - learning opportunities.

In our technology plan, we plan to connect to the Internet, install four TV/VCR units, and place three computers in the classrooms, media center, and computer lab for the 1997-98 school year. We applied for a grant to add three additional CD-Rom computers to our lab.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunication services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal services to schools. Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns.

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Butler

Mary Anne Butler
Principal

cc: Reverend Jeremiah J. McCarthy, Pastor

MAY 1 1997



2525 Third Avenue South
Escanaba, Michigan 49829-1298
Phone: (906) 786-9300
FAX: (906) 786-9318

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 15, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

Crippled by limited staff, geographic isolation, declining enrollment, and tight budgets, school districts in the southern, central Upper Peninsula of Michigan found it impossible to offer courses that are considered standard for their cosmopolitan counterparts. To address this inequity the Delta-Schoolcraft Intermediate School District formed a "Technology and Education Strategic Task Force." This group, composed of over fifty leaders from business, education, medical and public agencies, developed a strategic plan for our area. Strong, local commitment for building a distance learning network was supported financially through grant funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Commerce Department. This network enhanced the K-12 curriculum and improved the skills of students and workers. It provides residents with high quality educational experiences that promote economic growth and provides our communities with a 21st century competitive edge.


Yet, an inequity still exists among our school districts. There is great disparity regarding available technology among the end user sites. Many of the 40 schools located in Delta and Schoolcraft county do not have the internal connections necessary to access our wide area distance learning network. Discounts provided by the Universal Service Fund would help address this inequity issue as well as assist us with ongoing telecommunications charges.

In the Upper Peninsula of Michigan we are committed to providing our students with the technology necessary to be competitive in the global marketplace. Universal Service Funds will assist us in financing the technical aspects of the system, without draining limited school funds. School dollars can then be spent developing and implementing a technology-rich curriculum.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank-you.

Sincerely,


Diane Maltby
Technology Coordinator



Millcreek Township **DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL**
School District

"An Equal Opportunity Employer"

Millcreek Education Center

3740 West 26th Street • Erie, Pennsylvania 16506-2096 • (814) 835-5300

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
The Honorable Susan Ness
The Honorable James Quello
The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am Supervisor of Information Services from Millcreek Township School District, Erie, PA, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. As with most local government entities, the school district finds itself with aging buildings in need of repair as well as a complete revamping of the communications infrastructure. Local taxation has reached its maximum. This affects the goal of bringing the district up to the levels indicated by the President in his message to Congress. Without implementation of this plan, this district will not realize its goals by the year 2000.

I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,


Sara Petruso

Millcreek Township School District
3740 West 26th Street
Erie, PA 16506
Tel - (814) 835-5315
FAX - (814) 835-5370

Victoria Stevenson Technology Coordinator

Carter County Schools
305 Academy Street
Elizabethton, TN 37643

Voice: 423-547-4063
Fax: 423-547-4040
e-mail: stevensonv@ten-nash.ten.k12.tn.us

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 17, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong

Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a Technology Coordinator from Carter County Schools in Tennessee and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Victoria Stevenson
Technology Coordinator
Carter County Schools



Little Lake City School District

Where Kids Are #1

10515 S. Pioneer Boulevard, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670-3799 (562) 868-8241 Fax (562) 868-1192

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Board of Education

Armida Trujillo
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Louie Gonzalez
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Sara P. Mendez
Member

Superintendent

Maria G. Ott, Ph.D.

April 16, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am superintendent of the Little Lake City School District and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Little Lake City School District has received funding from the Annenberg Foundation to implement significant reforms in improving education in our district. Collection and analysis of data is crucial to monitoring and evaluating our progress toward achieving our goals as defined in our Los Angeles Annenberg Metropolitan Project (LAAMP) proposal. Networking our classrooms and schools is a necessary element of data collection. In addition, our LAAMP proposal defines the use of technology by students through a networked system as a major component of educational improvement efforts.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services to support our reform efforts. These discounts are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

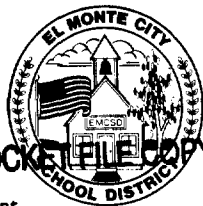
Sincerely,

Maria G. Ott, Ph.D.
Superintendent

***Mission Statement:** Recognizing that children come first, the Little Lake City School District provides a student-centered curriculum guided by skilled staff in a stimulating, safe environment, in partnership with a supportive community, to develop responsible citizens who have the skills, attitudes, and knowledge to function successfully in a changing and culturally diverse world.*

EL MONTE CITY

3540 North Lexington Avenue



SCHOOL DISTRICT

El Monte, California 91731-2684 • (818) 453-3700

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

JEFF SEYMOUR.....District Superintendent
JOYCE ROEBUCK.....Deputy Superintendent
Business, Personnel & Administrative Services
ARMENÉ CHAVDARIAN.....Assistant Superintendent, Instruction
CARLOS MANRIQUE.....Assistant Superintendent, Student Support Services

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BOARD OF EDUCATION

MR. DAVID B. REED.....President
MRS. EMILY ISHIGAKI.....Vice-President
MRS. BONNIE JIMENEZ.....Clerk
MR. STEPHEN D. HAKE.....Member
MRS. SUSAN WELDON.....Member

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
April 17, 1997

MAY 1 1997

Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from El Monte City School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Emily Ishigaki".
Emily Ishigaki
Vice President, El Monte
City School Board of Education

El/jd



Home of the Falcons

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

LOS ARBOLES MIDDLE SCHOOL

294 HILLCREST AVENUE / MARINA, CA 93933 / TELEPHONE (408) 384-3550 / FAX (408) 384-7833

April 15, 1997

Hon. Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Chong,

In reference to CC Docket No. 96-95, I urge you to support the e-rate draft rules that, if implemented, would give discounts from 20 to 90 percent for all telecommunication services based on poverty levels in school districts.

Our district has written and is in the process of implementing a five-year Technology Master Plan, *Accessing Technology Today*. The plan has a heavy focus on providing telecommunication capabilities to all of our school sites. Achieving this goal without the cost benefits to schools described in CC Docket No. 96-95 will be extremely difficult for our district and community.

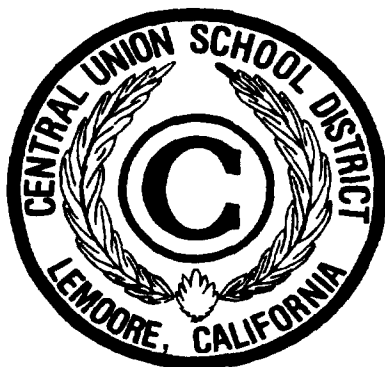
As a member of the Technology Steering Team that developed this plan, my vision for the future is for each of Monterey Peninsula Unified School District's students to graduate with the required technological skills to be a valuable member of the work force.

Your support on this issue is vital to schools throughout California. Please extend your influence and yes vote to passing the e-rate.

Sincerely,

Carol B. Lenters
Principal

REC-1
MAY 1 1997



CENTRAL UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Joan F. Gusinow, Ph.D.
Superintendent
P.O. Box 1339
NAS LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA 93245-1339

15783 Eighteenth Avenue
LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA 93245
Telephone (209) 924-3405
Fax (209) 924-1153

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeffrey Gilcrease
Cell Howe, Jr.
Larry Jones
Paul Newton
Olivia Reynoso
Mark Seymon

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 11, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No.96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a superintendent from Central Union School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow. The Central Union School District would use the discounts to offset the costs of our T1 lines.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joan F. Gusinow, Ph.D.
Superintendent

JFG:caa



Oakland Schools

2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford, Michigan 48327-1881

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
MAY 1 1997

April 14, 1997

The Honorable Rachell B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the superintendent of Oakland Schools, a regional education service agency which serves 28 public school districts and 186,759 students in Oakland County, Michigan. One of the major issues among school superintendents, school boards and other educators in Oakland County and throughout Michigan is that of affordable access to our nation's information infrastructure.

In Oakland County we would continue our work as a regional consortium to bring information access to approximately 10,000 classrooms. To accomplish our goal, we need reduced rates for dialtone and high speed data lines but more importantly, we need affordable means of on-premise equipment and networking for all of our school buildings.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service to schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

James Redmond, Ph.D.
Superintendent

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 15, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20544

MAY 1 1997

To The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong:

Re: CC Docket 96-45 -- Universal Service to Libraries and Schools. I am writing in support of the discounts for libraries and schools as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

If adopted, the Recommended Rules will allow libraries and schools significant discounts for the telecommunications and critical, non-telecommunications services necessary to assure that all of our libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are needed to live, learn, work and create in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of ensuring that libraries and schools would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications and related services, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of schools and libraries that must constantly upgrade their facilities and services in order to remain connected and competitive. A better educated populace benefits all of society.

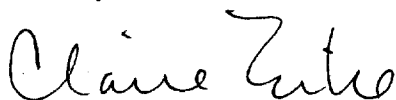
I also wish to express the opinion that the language of the final rules regarding universal service should explicitly state that:

- **the word "schools" includes ALL educational institutions (not just public schools) and all levels (college/university as well as K-12);**
- **ALL libraries (not just public libraries) are considered educational institutions.**

By way of our many consortial agreements, interlibrary loan services, special collections access and guest privileges, "private" college libraries such as the one in which I work serve patron groups far wider than their own school populations. We also play an important role in providing information services to our local citizens and to the national scholarly community. Our ability to both give and receive information services depends on timely, reliable Internet access. Please convey these recommendations to the members of the Federal Communications Commission and the Illinois Commerce Commission on my behalf.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Claire Eike

cc: AJ, CB, JL, AC



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



April 8, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a teacher from Woodlake Elementary School in St. Tammany Parish, Mandeville, Louisiana and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the information Superhighway.

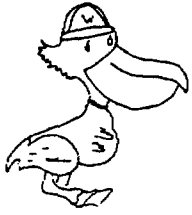
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools and poorest school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Krieger



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



April 8, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a teacher from Woodlake Elementary School in St. Tammany Parish, Mandeville, Louisiana and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools and poorest school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Krieger



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILE



April 8, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a teacher from Woodlake Elementary School in St. Tammany Parish, Mandeville, Louisiana and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools and poorest school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jean Krieger

NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640

Telephone: (412) 656-4771
Fax (412) 656-4786

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

The Honorable Rachel B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am the Business Manager from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

With this discount, we would be able to purchase new adoptions of textbooks which have repeatedly been cut from our local budget. Western Pennsylvania has been extremely hard hit and our school has lost \$13,000,000 of tax base in the last ten years and we rank ninth in the Commonwealth for local tax effort.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

◆
April 24, 1997

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW Room 844
Washington DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Chong,

In Reference to: Ex Parte contact in CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 96-262.

It has come to our attention that the FCC is considering a proposal to increase the business line Subscriber Line Charge and to impose a new charge, reportedly called a FERRO, of at least \$4.50 per line per month to support extending new telecommunications capabilities to schools, libraries and rural health care facilities. Concurrently, while the FCC is considering imposing these new costs on American businesses and adjusted costs to residential telephone users, we understand the Commission will not take the long overdue step of bringing rates closer to the true economic cost of local access services.

We urge you not to adopt the foregoing proposals which would, in effect, impose a new tax on American businesses, regardless of whether it is characterized as a "rate rebalancing" or "modification of rate structures." With all due respect, we believe that the imposition of such taxes is the business of the people's representatives, not appointed officials. In addition, nationwide educational and health care initiatives should be considered on a comprehensive basis by all interested authorities, not just the telecommunications matter by the FCC.

It is time for the Commission to reform its rules governing access charges, which amount to more than \$3 billion a year higher than they should be. All consumers, businesses as well as residential, deserve protection from excessive monopoly prices. The Administration's social policy agenda should be addressed in other ways and not get in the way of these reforms.

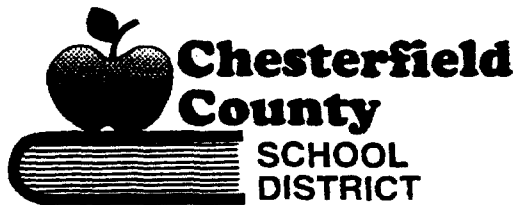
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Janna L. Harvey".
Janna L. Harvey
Director Telecommunications

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Received
Office of Secretary



401 West Boulevard Chesterfield, S.C. 29709

April 18, 1997

Dr. Renfro C. Manning, Superintendent

Telephone - (803) 623-2175

Fax - (803) 623-3434

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINALRECEIVED
MAY 1 1997Federal Communications Commission
Office of Enforcement

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a superintendent from Chesterfield County School District, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

In Chesterfield County, we now have twelve of our fifteen schools wired throughout and on line. Four other facilities are scheduled.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year to fully utilize the available potential.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Renfro C. Manning
SuperintendentRCM:ph
FCCInt1